

HOW TO OPEN
HANDCLIFFS WITHOUT
A KEY...



KARL OSCARDELTA

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THERE ARE OVER A THOUSAND VARIATIONS OF HANDCUFFS IN CIRCULATION AROUND THE WORLD. WHILST MANY MODERN HANDCUFFS SHARE A COMMON DESIGN THEY DON'T ALWAYS SHARE A UNIVERSAL KEY. HANDCUFFS CONTAINED WITHIN THIS HANDBOOK HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO SHOW THE SYSTEMATIC STEPS TO OPEN HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY...



RATCHET ARM



PAWL



SPRING



DOUBLE-LOCK BAR

APPLYING

HANDCUFFS

FRONT. PALM TO PALM



FRONT STACK





REAR.
PALM TO PALM

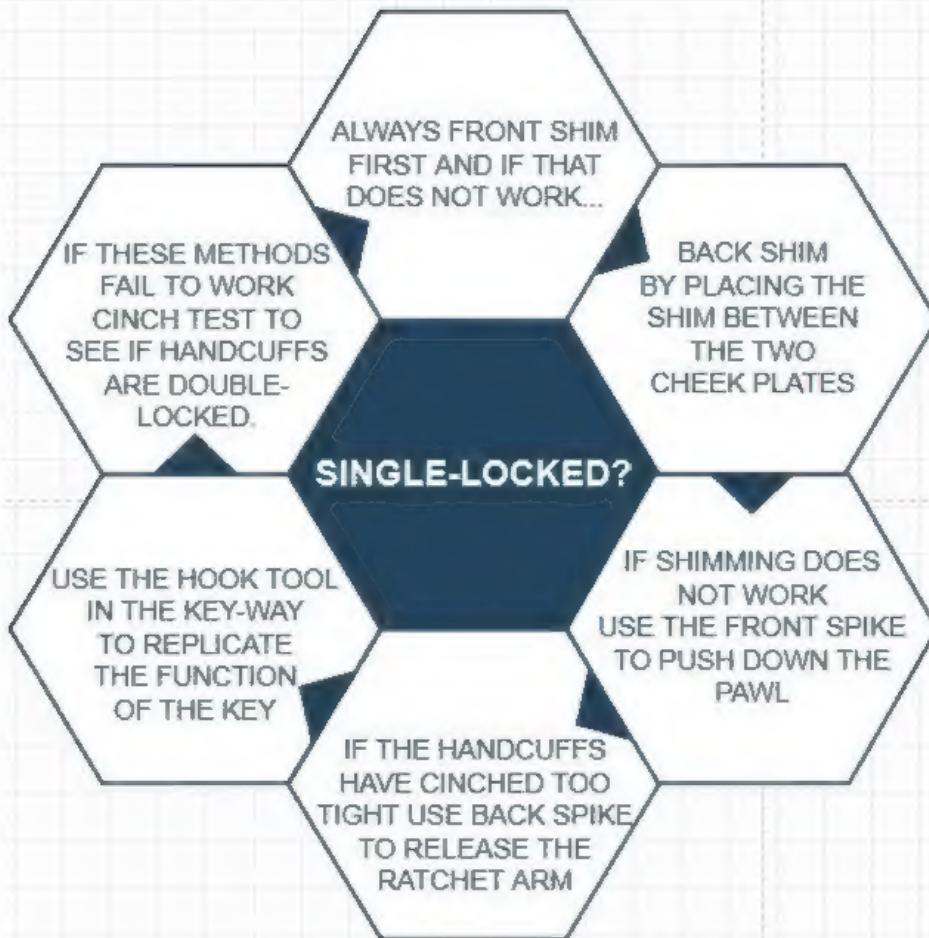


REAR STACK

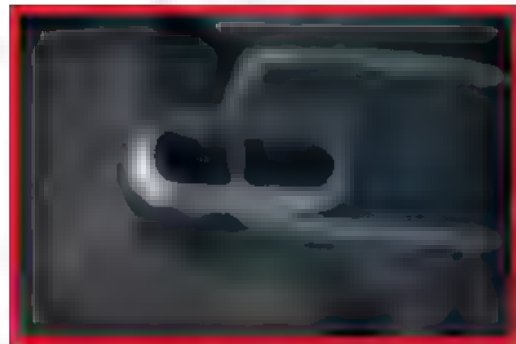


REAR.
BACK TO BACK

SINGLE-LOCKED?



AMERICAN S&W

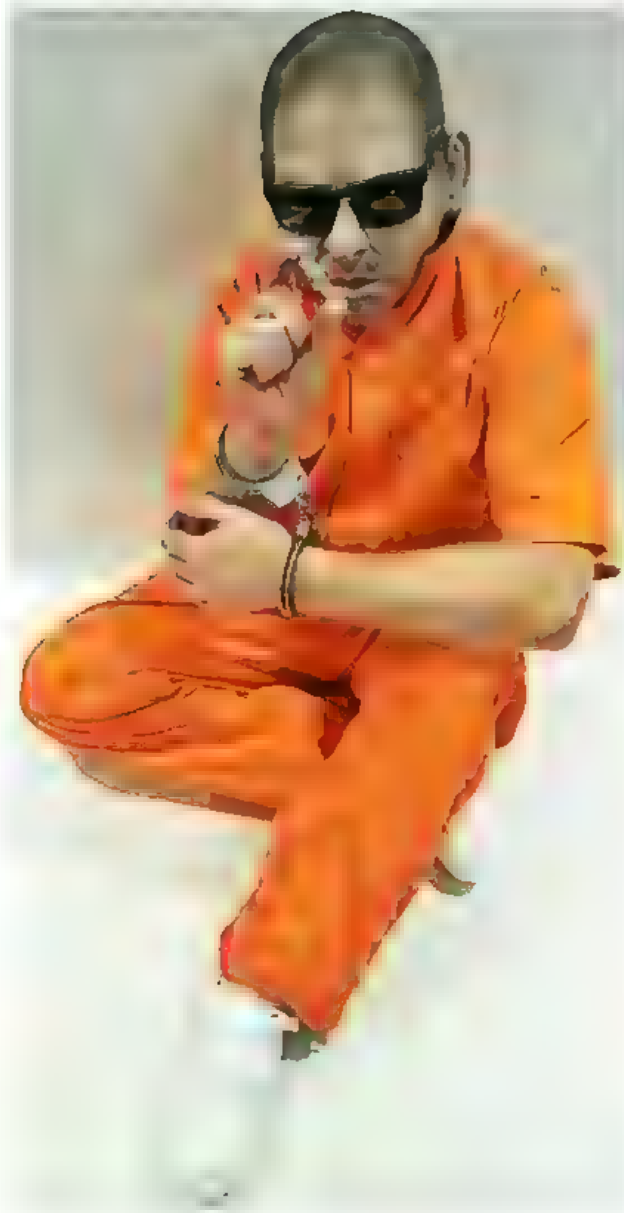


A VISUAL CHECK WILL SHOW IF THE DOUBLE-LOCK IS ON OR OFF. HERE IT IS 'OFF'.



IF THE SLOT IS EMPTY THIS WILL INDICATE THAT THE DOUBLE-LOCK IS "ON"

IMPROVISED SHIM



**YOU CAN USE THE HANDCUFF TO ASSIST WITH
BENDING THE HAIR-CLIP...**



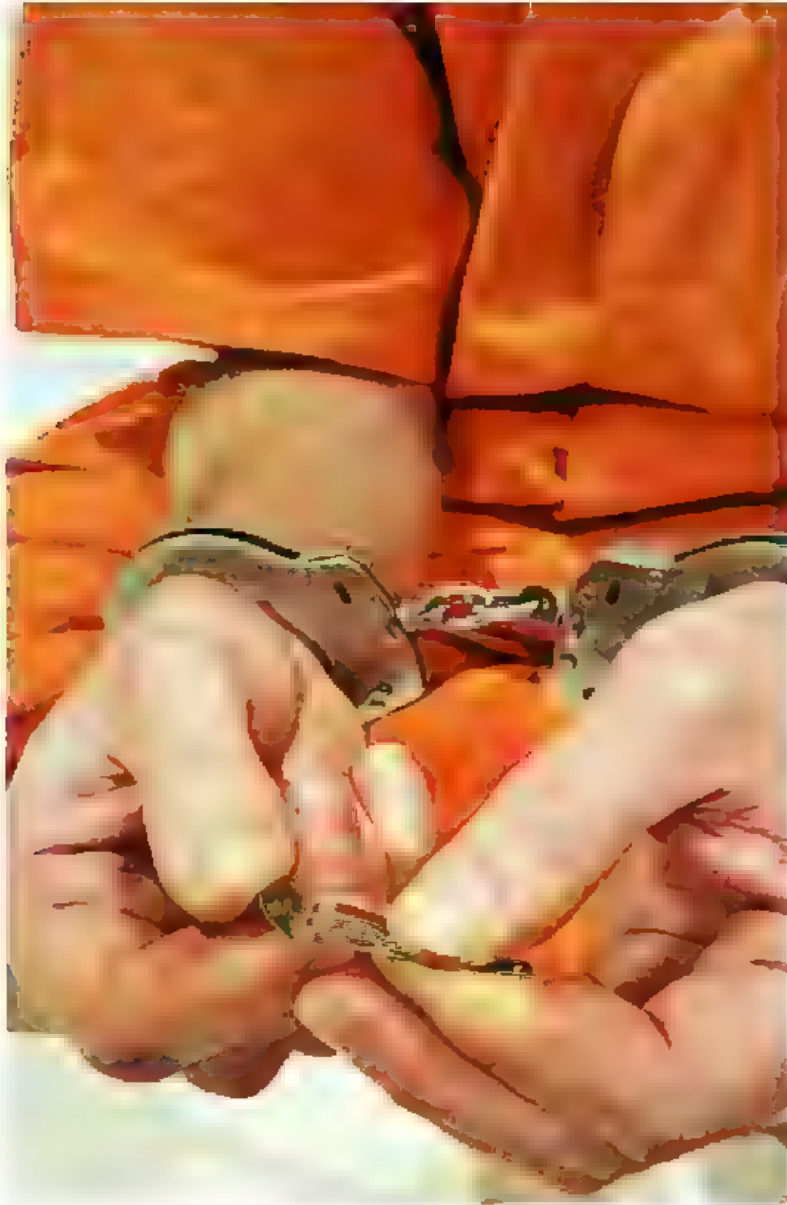
**AFTER BENDING THE HAIR-CLIP REMOVE
FROM THE HANDCUFF...**



USE YOUR THUMBS TO FLATTEN THE BENT PART
OF THE HAIR-CLIP AND THEN...



OPEN AND...



**BEND UNTIL ONE SIDE OF THE
HAIR-CLIP SNAPS.**



IDEALLY JUST ONE SIDE WILL SNAP BUT IF BOTH SIDES SNAP IT'S NOT A PROBLEM. KEEP THE MIDDLE PART, YOU WILL NEED IT LATER.

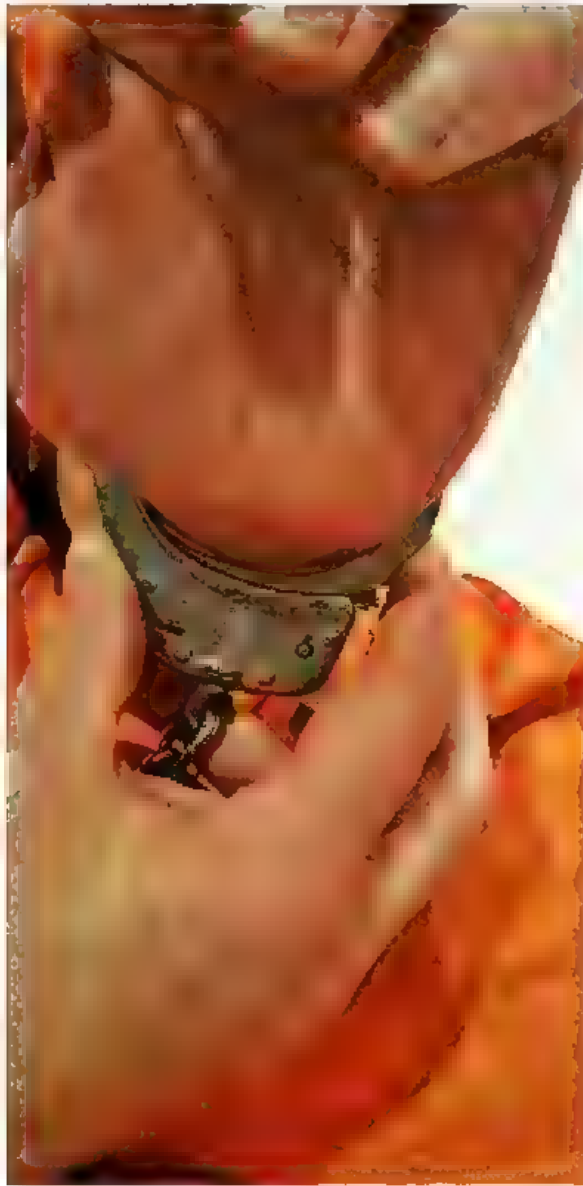


FRONT SHIM

**INSERT THE SHIM FIRMLY BELOW THE
RATCHET ARM...**



...AND PUSH IN THE RATCHET ARM
AND SHIM AT THE SAME TIME.



HOLD SHIM IN POSITION AND ROTATE YOUR WRIST TO OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.



IMPROVISED SHIM

**THIS IS ANOTHER TYPE OF "HANDCLIFF SHIM"
THAT CAN BE MADE WITH A HAIR-CLIP.**



FOR THIS TYPE OF "HANDCLIFF SHIM" WE INSERT THE RIVET END BETWEEN THE CHEEK PLATES AND RATCHET ARM.



USING YOUR THUMB BEND THE RIVET END
OF THE HAIR-CLIP.



**REMOVE THE HAIR-CLIP AND BEND THE RIVET END
FLAT WITH YOUR THUMB.**



**CONTINUE TO OPEN AND BEND
UNTIL IT SNAPS.**



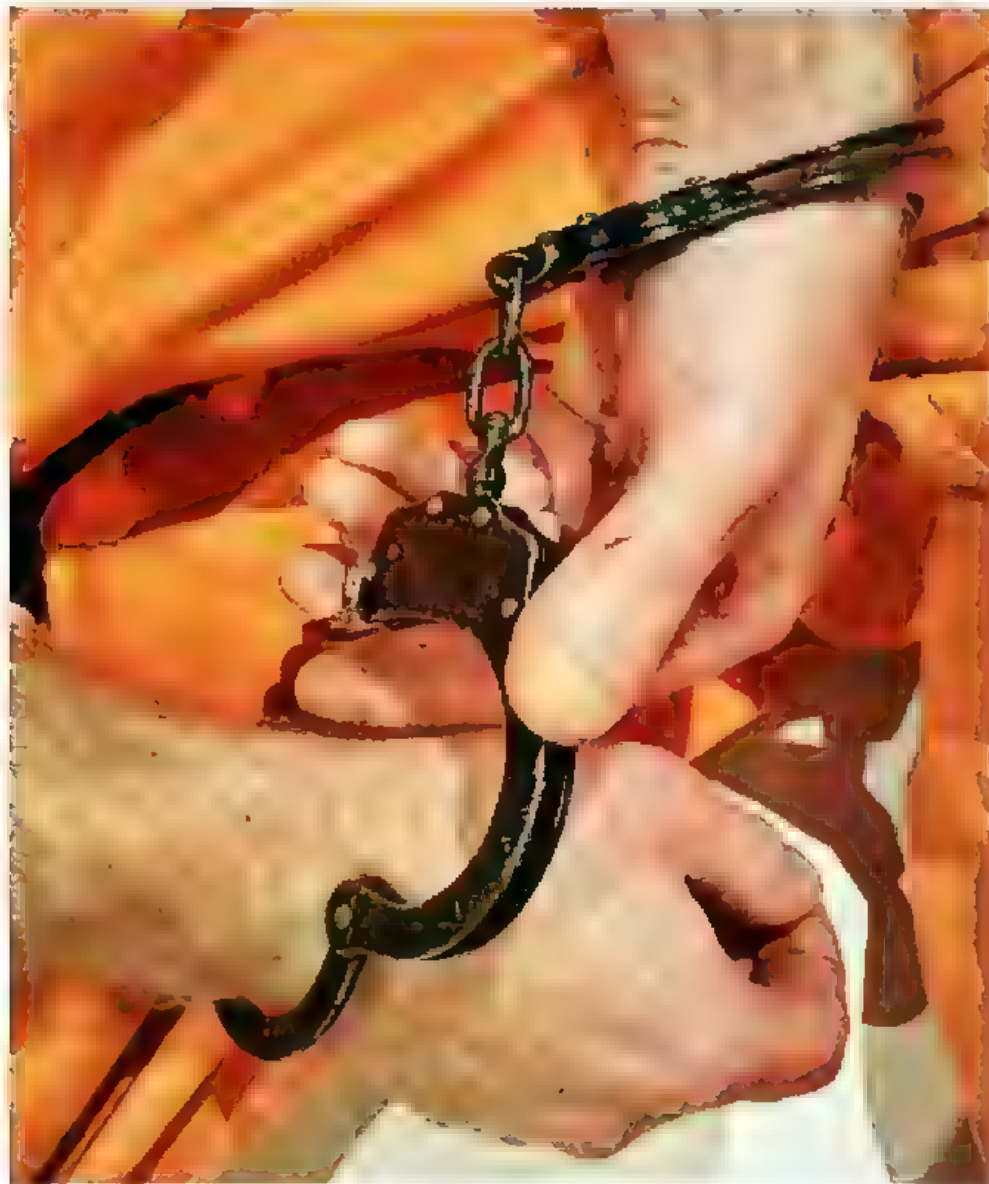
**SNAPPING THE HAIR-CLIP AT THE RIVET END
PROVIDES A HANDCLIFF SHIM THAT IS SLIGHTLY
SLIMMER THAN ONE MADE FROM THE FLAT END.**



THIS WILL ALLOW FOR IT TO FIT HANDCLIFFS
THAT HAVE ONE PAWL AND A NARROW BODY.



WITH THE SHIM INSERTED, PUSH IN THE RATCHET
ARM AND THEN ROTATE WRIST OUTWARDS TO
OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.



RUSSIAN BRS-2



DOUBLE-LOCK OFF



DOUBLE-LOCK ON

WHEN MAKING A SHIM FROM A HAIR-CLIP YOU HAVE TWO OPTIONS: SNAP FROM THE RIVET END OR SNAP FROM THE FLAT END.



**A HAIR-CLIP SNAPPED AT THE FLAT END PROVIDES
A SHIM THAT CAN GO DEEP TO REACH THE TWO PAWLS
AND OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.**



WHEN UNDER STRESS IT IS EASY TO INSERT THE SHIM BETWEEN THE TWO CHEEK PLATES. WE WILL CALL THIS "BACK SHIM".



THIS IS WHY WE SHIM THE FRONT AND BACK TO ENSURE WE ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT PLACE...



SOMETIMES YOU NEED A LONGER SHIM..



INSERT THE HAIR-CLIP TO THE SIDE OF THE RATCHET ARM AND INSIDE THE CHEEK PLATE.



THEN BEND THE HAIR-CLIP AS SHOWN.



**USE A HARD SURFACE TO BEND THE HAIR-CLIP FLAT
AND THEN OPEN, BEND, OPEN AND BEND...**



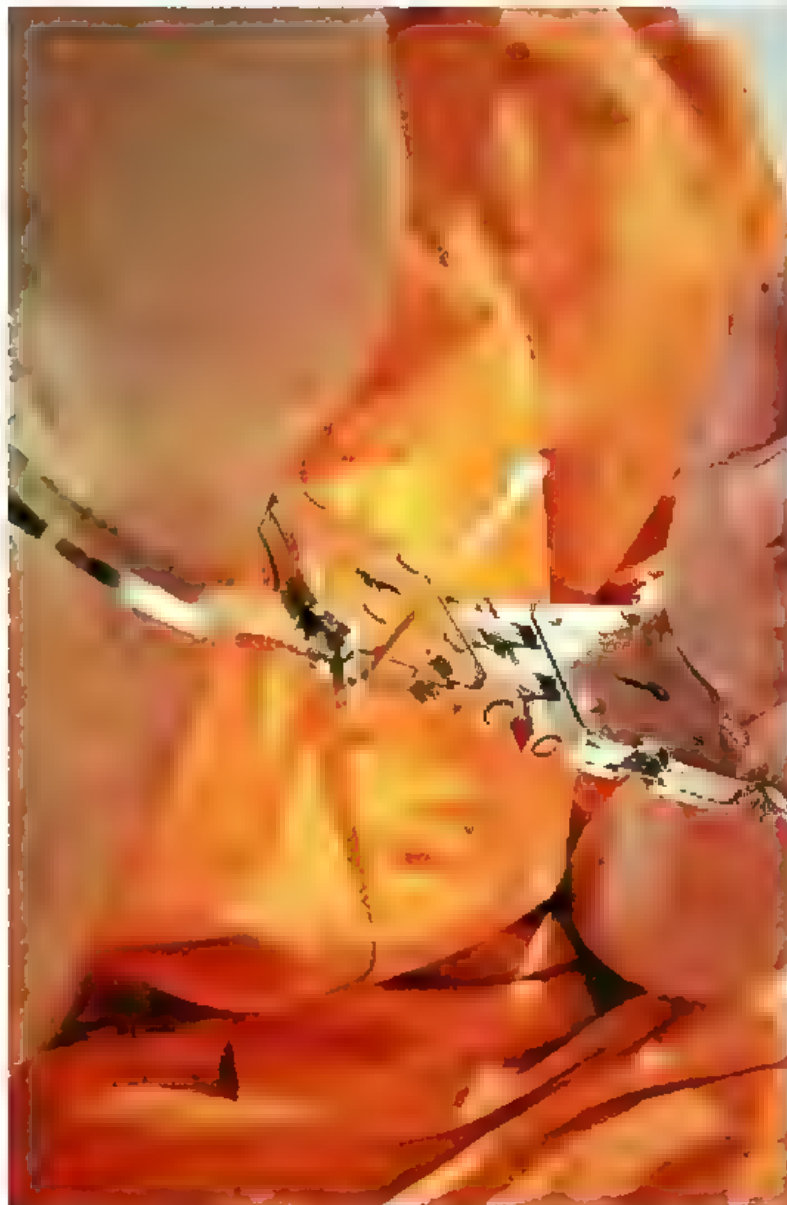
...UNTIL IT SNAPS.



THIS WILL PROVIDE THE LONGEST SHIM POSSIBLE WITH A HAIR-CLIP. IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO FILE THE EDGE WITH AN ABRASIVE SURFACE TO REDUCE THE WIDTH.



**INSERT YOUR SHIM FIRMLY UNDER THE
RATCHET ARM.**



**INSERT THE SHIM AS DEEP AS POSSIBLE AND
THEN ROTATE YOUR WRIST OUTWARDS TO
OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.**



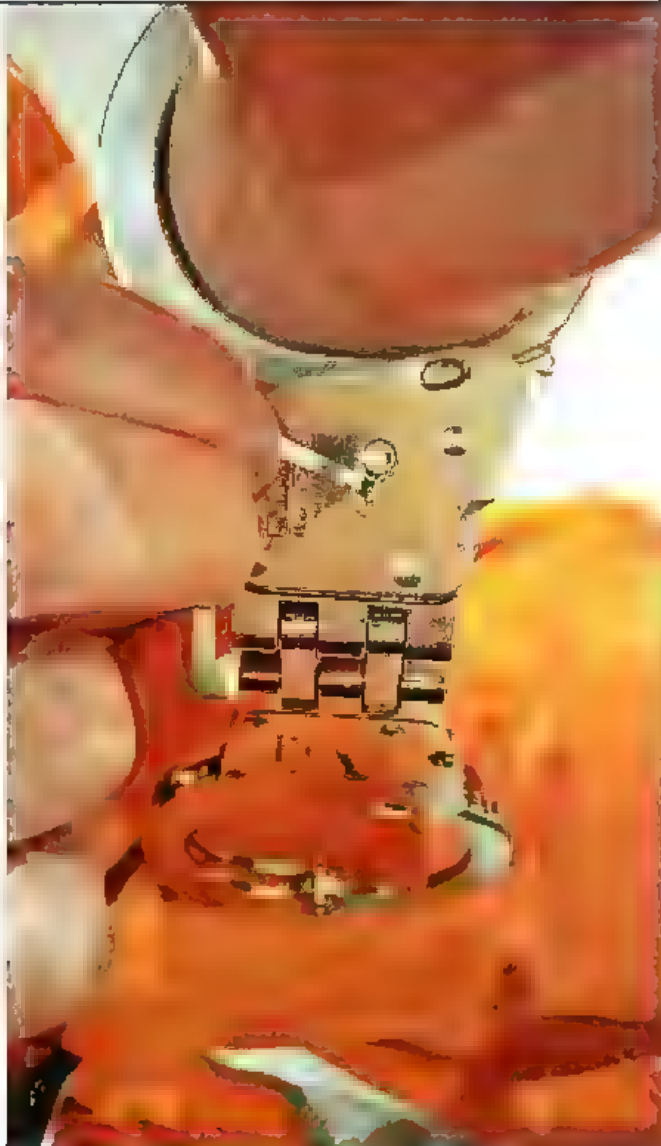
ON SOME HANDCUFFS THE DOUBLE-LOCK IS
ACTUATED BY PRESSING IN A BUTTON.
TO TAKE OFF THE DOUBLE-LOCK ON THESE
ALFA-PROJ HANDCUFFS FIRST BEND THE END
OF THE SHIM SLIGHTLY...



**INSERT THE TIP OF THE SHIM INTO THE
KEY-WAY AND JUST UNDER THE OUTER
PLATE OF THE HANDCUFF...**



**PUSH THE SHIM TOWARDS THE ACTUATOR
UNTIL YOU SEE THE BUTTON APPEAR
(RETURN TO SENDER). THE DOUBLE-LOCK
IS NOW OFF SO YOU CAN NOW FRONT SHIM.**



SHIM NOT

WORKING?



LOCKING MECHANISM & KEY

**THESE CHINESE ANHUA HANDCUFFS HAVE A
ROTATING COG WHEEL THAT ENGAGES WITH
THE RATCHET ARM AND PREVENTS FRONT SHIMMING.**



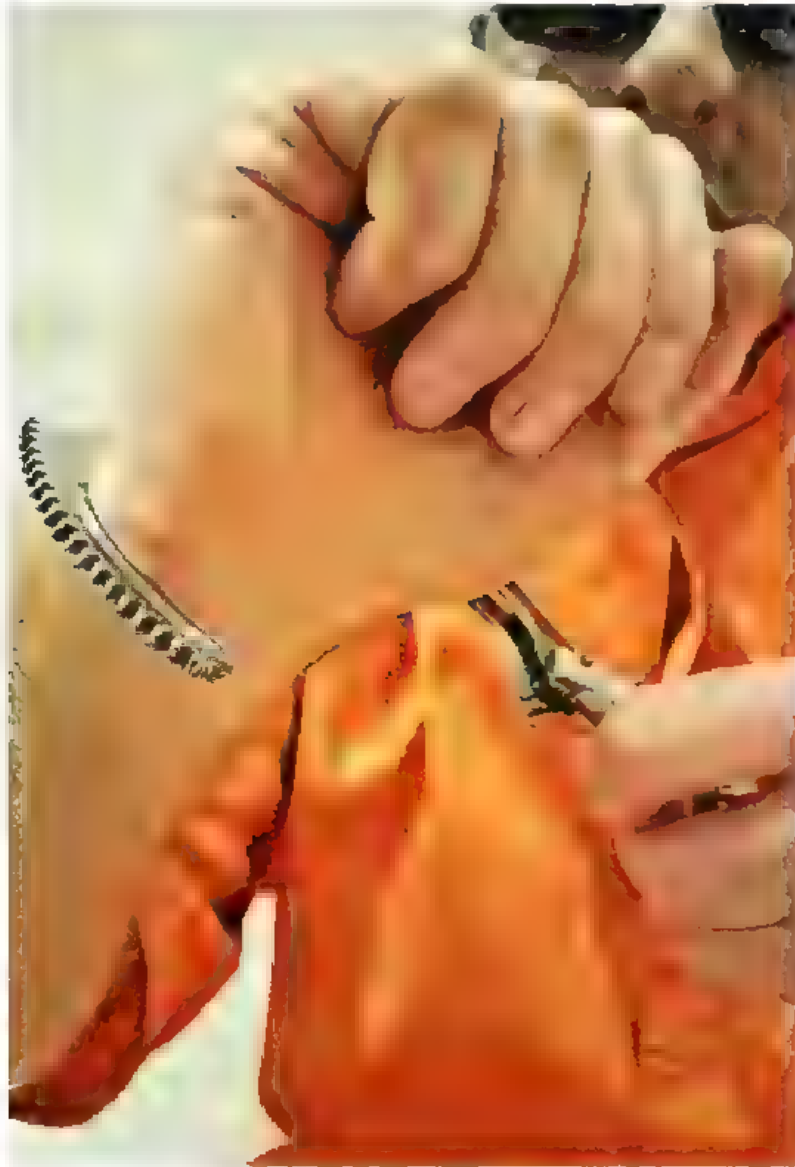
**PLACE THE SHIM EITHER SIDE OF THE RATCHET ARM
SO IT POINTS DOWN INTO THE TUBE PART OF
THE HANDCLIFF.**



FORCE THE SHIM DEEP INTO THE TUBE AND THEN PRESS DOWN FIRMLY TO COMPRESS THE SPRING. THIS WILL DISENGAGE THE COG WHEEL ALLOWING FOR IT TO ROTATE OUTWARDS.



**HOLD THE SHIM IN POSITION AND ROTATE YOUR
WRIST OUTWARDS TO OPEN THE HANDCUFFS
WITHOUT A KEY.**



GERMAN CLEJUSO



THIS CUT IN THE PAWL
WILL CATCH YOUR SHIM!

DOUBLE-LOCK OFF



DOUBLE-LOCK ON



THE PAWL ON CLEJUSO HANDCLIFFS ARE DESIGNED TO CATCH THE SHIM AND PREVENT IT FROM GOING BETWEEN THE RATCHET ARM AND PAWL.



**AFTER TRYING TO FRONT AND BACK SHIM
YOU SHOULD THEN FRONT SPIKE THE HANDCLIFFS
USING THE STRAIGHT PART OF THE HAIR-CLIP.**



**INSERT THE SPIKE UNDER THE RATCHET ARM
AND PUSH FIRMLY THIS WILL COMPRESS THE
SPRING UNDER THE PAWL AND ALLOW FOR THE
PAWL TO DISENGAGE FROM THE RATCHET ARM.**



ROTATE YOUR WRIST OUTWARDS TO
OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.

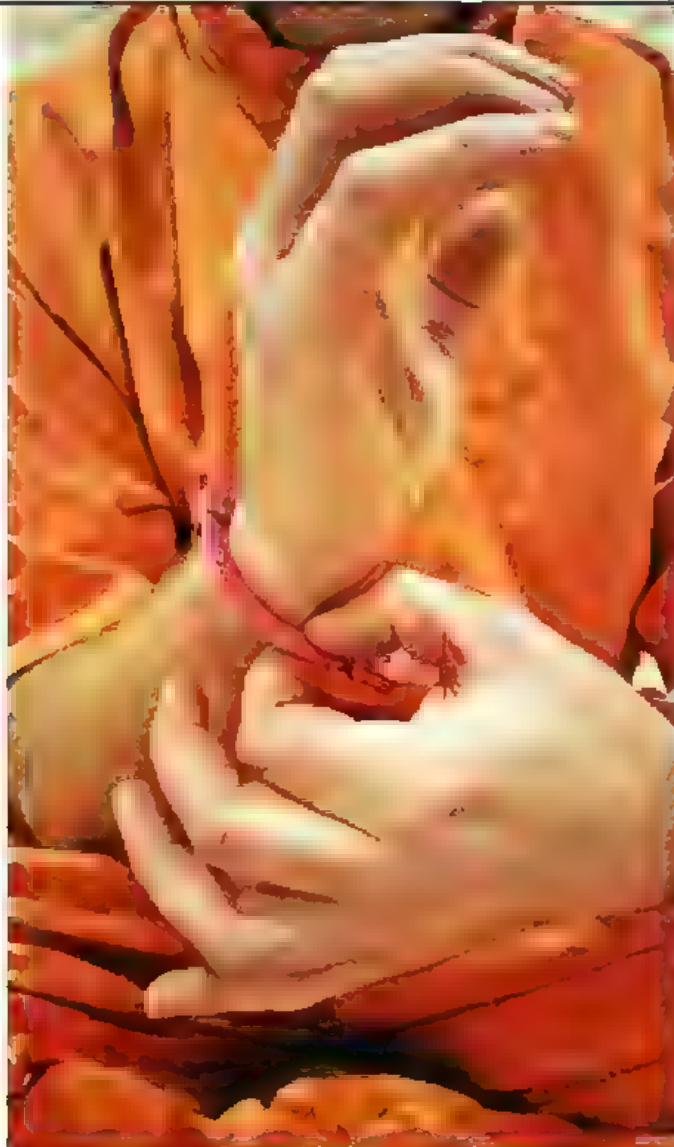


PINCH TEST

WHEN HANDCUFFS ARE APPLIED A "PINCH TEST" SHOULD BE CONDUCTED TO CHECK IF THEY ARE TOO LOOSE OR TOO TIGHT!



TO ENSURE A CORRECT FIT YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TOUCH THE TIP OF YOUR THUMB AND INDEX FINGER. IF THEY APPEAR TOO LOOSE THEN CINCH AND CONDUCT ANOTHER PINCH TEST.

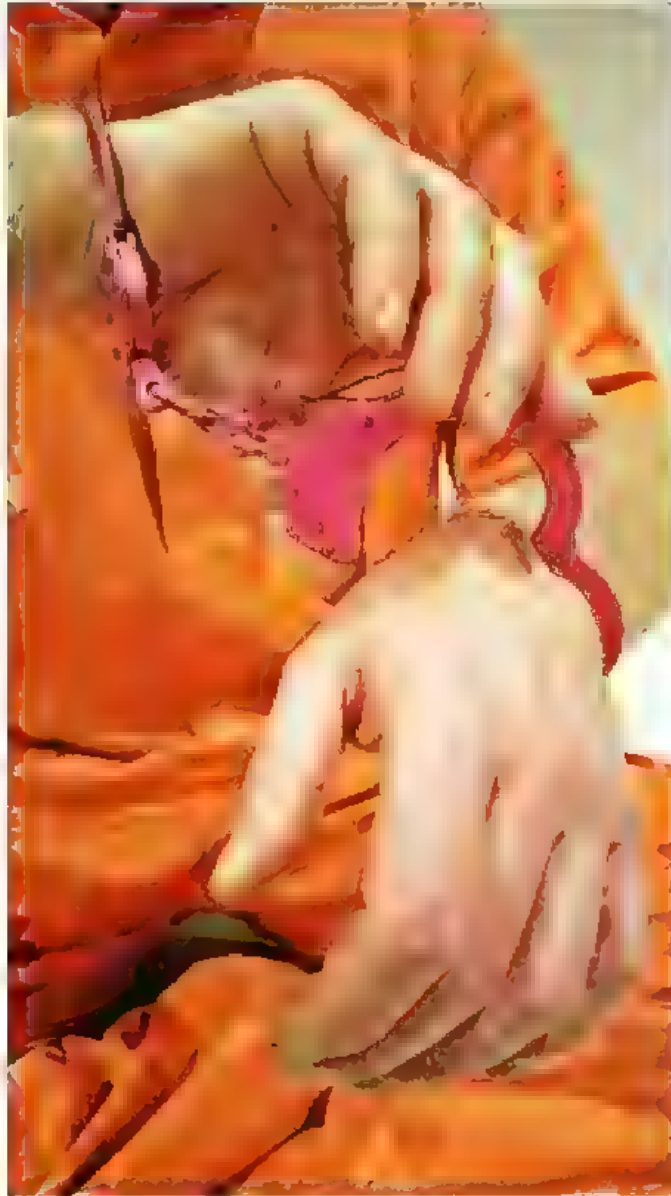


BACK SPIKE

SHIMMING IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE FOR HANDCUFFS THAT ARE TOO TIGHT. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE TRY TO BACK SPIKE THE HANDCUFFS.



**INSERT THE SPIKE BETWEEN THE CHEEK PLATES
TO COMPRESS THE SPRING UNDER THE PAWL AND
RELEASE THE PAWL FROM THE RATCHET ARM.**



BRITISH TECHNIAT



DOUBLE-LOCK OFF



DOUBLE-LOCK ON

HOOK TOOL



INSERT THE HOOK PART OF THE HAIR-GRIP INTO THE TOP OF THE KEY-WAY WITH THE STRAIGHT PART AT 12 O'CLOCK.



TURN THE HAIR-GRIP SO THE TIP OF THE STRAIGHT PART IS POINTING AT 3 O'CLOCK AND AT THE SAME TIME PRESS DOWN ON THE HAIR-GRIP...



...AND AT THE SAME TIME USE YOUR INDEX FINGER TO PUSH IN THE RATCHET ARM AND THEN ROTATE YOUR WRIST OUTWARDS TO OPEN THE HANDCLIFFS WITHOUT A KEY.



**FOR THE OTHER HANDCUFF INSERT THE HOOK
PART INTO THE KEY-WAY...**



...TURN THE HAIR-GRIP SO THE TIP OF THE STRAIGHT PART POINTS AT 9 O'CLOCK AND AT THE SAME TIME PUSH IN THE RATCHET ARM.



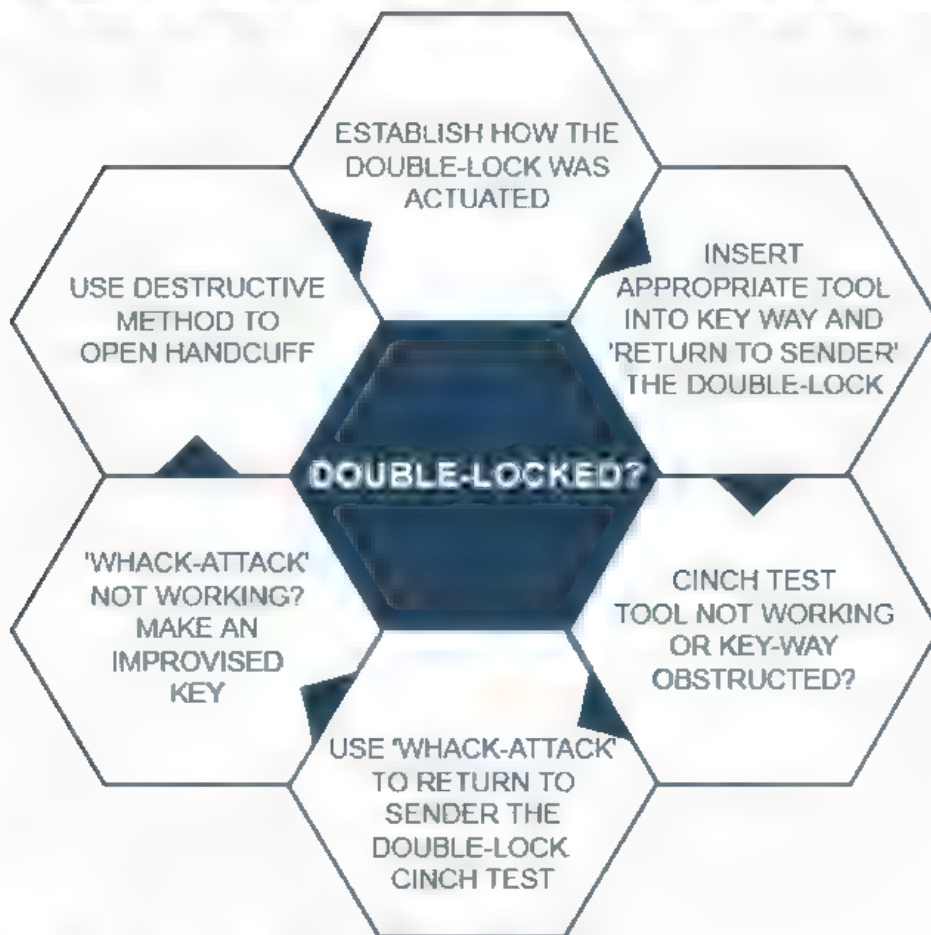
**WHILST PRESSING DOWN ON THE HAIR-GRIP
ROTATE YOUR WRIST OUTWARDS TO OPEN
THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.**



SHIM NOT

WORKING?

DOUBLE-LOCKED?



V SHIM

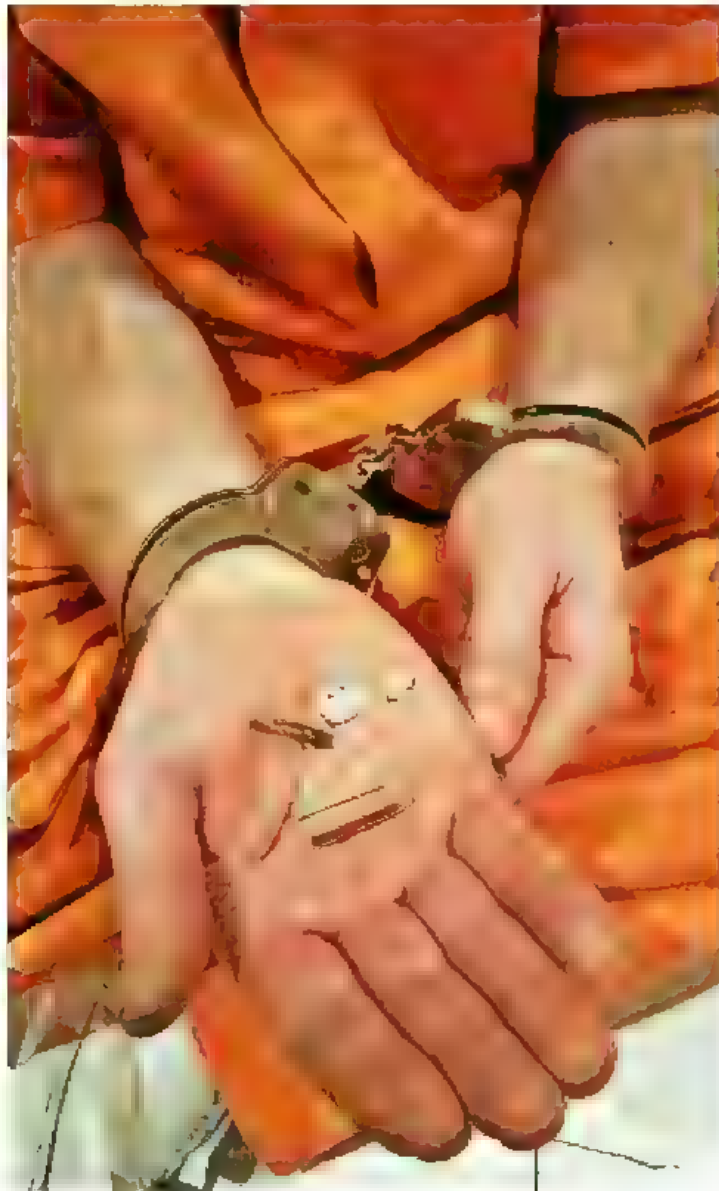
**THESE SOUTH KOREAN YUIL HANDCUFFS FEATURE
BLOCKING BLADES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO STOP
A SHIM FROM GOING BETWEEN THE PAWL AND THE
RATCHET ARM.**



IF DOUBLE-LOCKED YOU CAN USE THE HOOK TOOL TO "RETURN TO SENDER" THE DOUBLE-LOCK BAR.



**TO BYPASS THE BLOCKING BLADES SIMPLY
SNAP THE HAIR-CLIP INTO TWO LENGTHS...**



BEND BOTH PIECES UNTO A "V" SHAPE...



**PUSH ONE "V" SHIM INTO THE HANDCLIFF
BETWEEN THE CHEEK PLATES AND RATCHET ARM. ..**



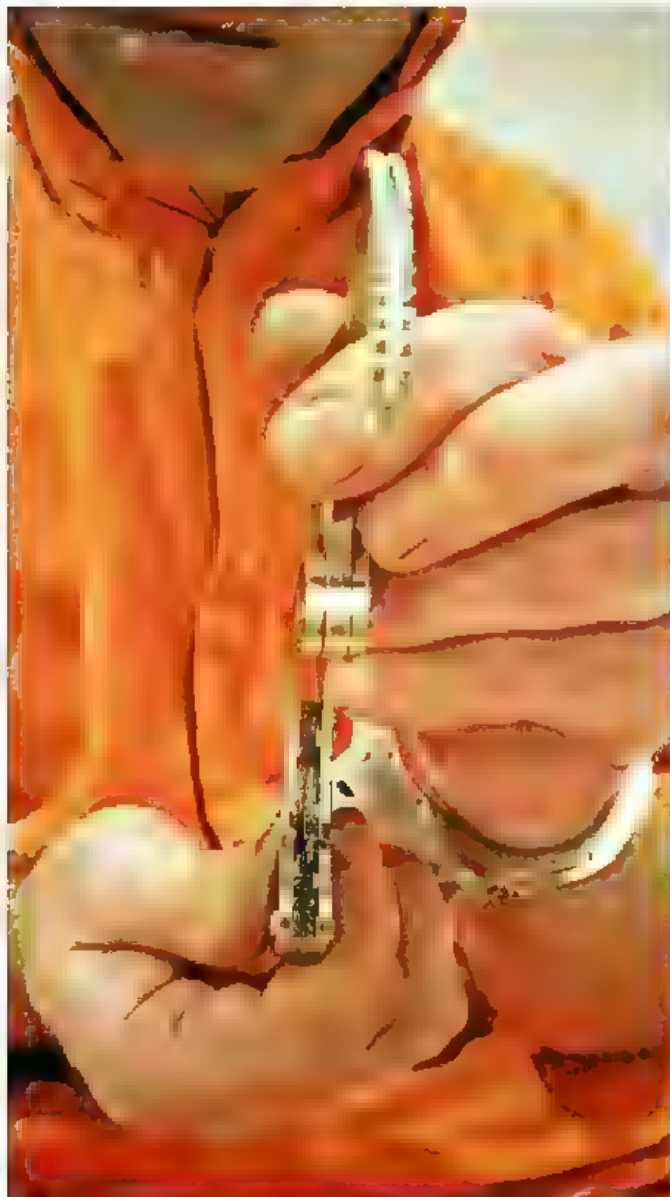
DO THE SAME ON THE OTHER SIDE...



BOTH "V" SHIMS SHOULD BE FIRMLY SEATED TO ENSURE THEY ARE PUSHING AND HOLDING THE TWO PAWLS DOWN SO THEY DISENGAGE FROM THE RATCHET ARM.



**THIS "V" SHIM METHOD ALLOWS FOR THE
HANDCLIFF TO BE OPENED WITHOUT A KEY.**



THIS METHOD IS USED TO TAKE OFF THE
DOUBLE-LOCK USING KENETIC ENERGY...



**STRIKE THE HANDCUFFS ON A HARD SURFACE
SO THE DOUBLE-LOCK BAR IS SENT TOWARDS
THE HARD SURFACE (RETURN TO SENDER). FOR
MOST HANDCUFFS YOU STRIKE THE CHEEK PLATES;
HOWEVER THERE ARE SOME EXCEPTIONS.**



AFTER STRIKING THE HANDCUFFS ON A HARD SURFACE YOU SHOULD CONDUCT A CINCH TEST. ONCE THE DOUBLE-LOCK IS OFF START THE SYSTEMATIC STEPS TO OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.



FOR THESE RIVOLIER HANDCUFFS YOU CAN TAKE OFF THE DOUBLE-LOCK BY STRIKING THE AREA AROUND THE PUSH BUTTON DOUBLE-LOCK ACTUATORS. CARE MUST BE TAKEN AS YOU ARE ALSO STRIKING THE RATCHET ARMS.



CINCH TEST AFTER STRIKING AND THEN FRONT SHIM ONCE THE DOUBLE-LOCK IS OFF.



DARBY HANDCUFFS



LOCKING MECHANISM & KEY

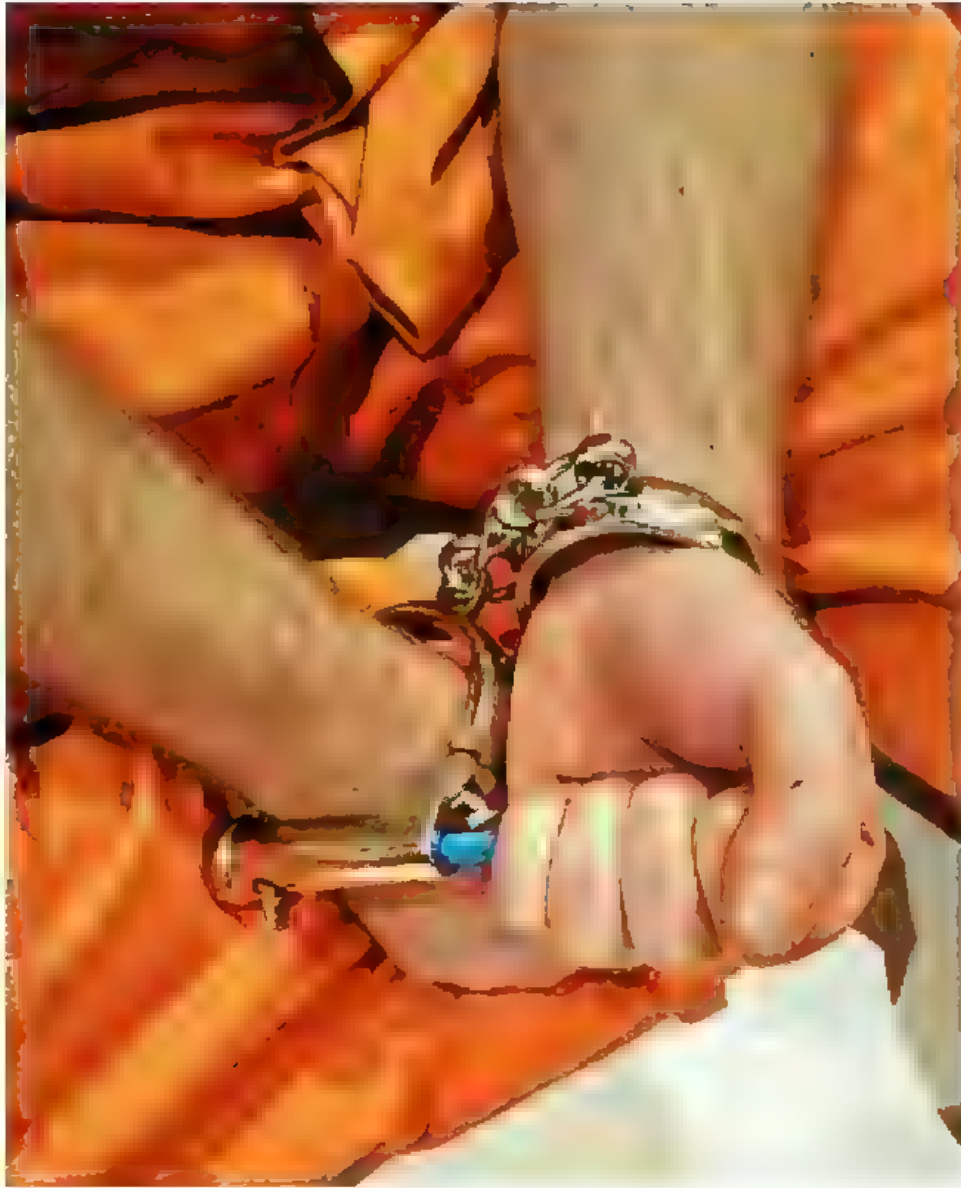
THE "MALE" VERSION OF DARBY HANDCUFFS HAVE
A THREADED SCREW INSIDE.



**TO OPEN THESE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY
YOU NEED SOMETHING THAT CAN GRAB THE
THREAD OF THE SCREW.**



**INSERT THE ITEM FIRMLY INTO THE KEY-WAY
AND TWIST CLOCK-WISE TO GRAB THE THREAD
OF THE SCREW.**



**PULL ON THE ITEM TO COMPRESS THE SPRING
AND RETRACT THE PAWL FROM THE RATCHET ARM.
THEN ROTATE YOUR WRIST OUTWARDS TO OPEN
THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.**



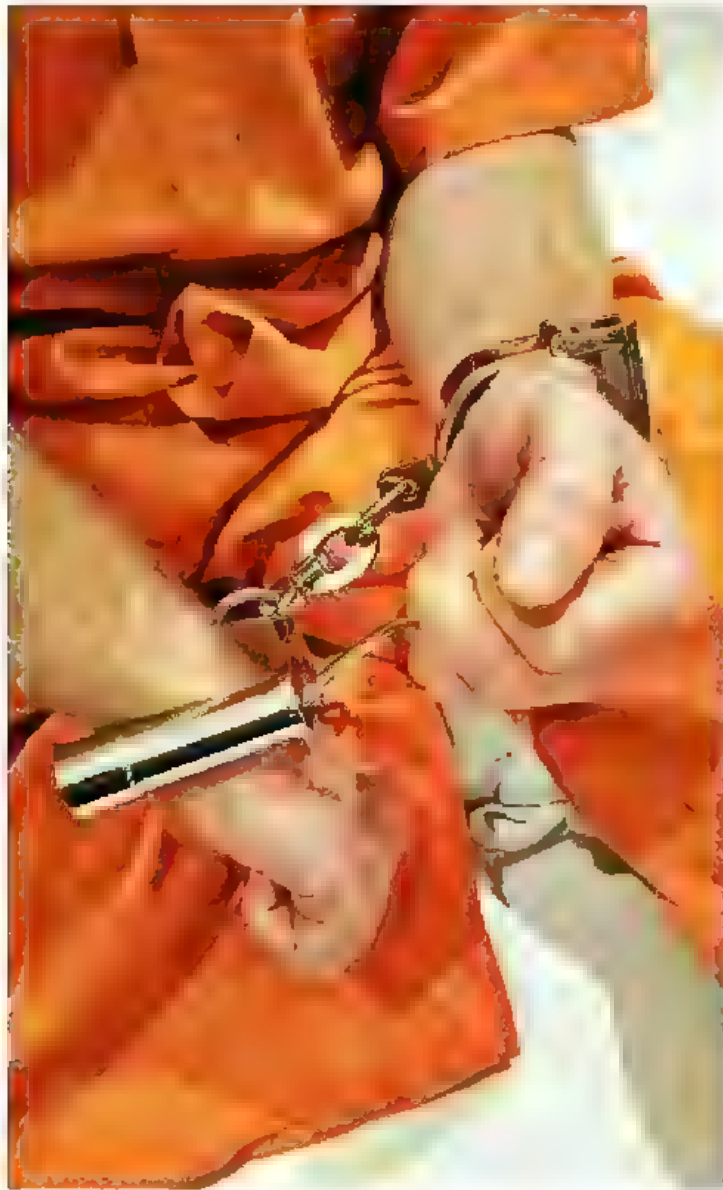
**THE "FEMALE" VERSION OF THE DARBY HANDCLIFFS
REQUIRE A SCREW STYLE KEY TO OPEN THEM.**



A METAL OBJECT SUCH AS THE HANDLE OF A TEA SPOON CAN BE USED TO REPLICATE THE FUNCTION OF THE SCREW KEY.



**TWIST THE ITEM CLOCK-WISE TO GRAB
ONTO THE INTERNAL THREAD...**



PULL HARD TO COMPRESS THE SPRING AND RETRACT THE PAWL FROM THE RATCHET ARM. THEN ROTATE YOUR WRIST OUTWARDS TO OPEN THE HANDCLIFFS WITHOUT A KEY.



NOVELTY

THESE "NOVELTY" HANDCUFFS HAVE A ROTATING WHEEL THAT PREVENTS FRONT SHIMMING.



**INSERT SHIM BETWEEN THE CHEEK PLATES
AND UNDER THE METAL "LIP". PUSH SHIM
DEEP TO OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT
A KEY.**



**INSERT THE HOOK INTO THE KEY-WAY
AND ROTATE SO THE SPIKE END IS
POINTING AT 4 O'CLOCK. PRESS THE
HAIR-GRIP AGAINST CHEEK PLATES TO
OPEN THE HANDCUFFS WITHOUT A KEY.**





COUNTER KIDNAP & HOSTAGE SURVIVAL HANDBOOK
LIFE IS UNPREDICTABLE, ANYONE, ANYTIME, ANYWHERE
CAN BE PRONE TO ABDUCTION, KIDNAP, RESTRAINT AND
DETENTION DURING CONDITIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT,
CIVIL UNREST OR OPERATIONS OTHER THAN WAR.
DON'T BE A SOFT TARGET - BECOME A HARD TARGET!

PAPERBACK AVAILABLE VIA WWW.OSCARDELTA.CO.UK
KINDLE/EBOOK AVAILABLE VIA AMAZON.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



KARL OSCARDELTA IS A FORMER BRITISH POLICE OFFICER AND SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT FOR GOVERNMENTAL, DIPLOMATIC, LAW ENFORCEMENT, INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS PERSONNEL.

KARL IS THE LEAD TRAINER AND FOUNDER OF THE PROGRESSIVE RESTRAINT ESCAPE SYSTEM DELIVERING ADVANCED TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES VIA 4TAC5.COM.

KARL ALSO MAKES AND DESIGNS ADVANCED RESTRAINT ESCAPE TOOLS AND OTHER PRODUCTS AVAILABLE VIA OSCARDELTA SPD - WWW.OSCARDELTA.CO.UK AND AUTHORISED STOCKIST.

ALWAYS HAVE AN ESCAPE PLAN...